

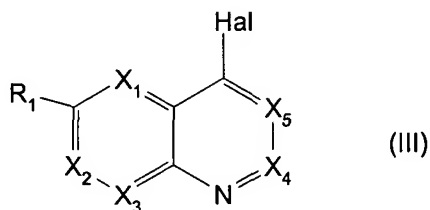
AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please cancel claims 1-19 and add new claims 20-32.

Complete list of claims

Claims 1-19 (cancelled)

20. **(New)** A compound of formula (III)



wherein:

X₁ is >C-R'₁;

X₂ is >C-R'₂;

X₃ is >C-R'₃;

X₄ is >C-R'₄;

X₅ is >C-F;

and, optionally, one of X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ is a nitrogen atom;

R₁, R'₁, R'₂, R'₃, and R'₄ are identical or different, and each independently is:

a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl, cycloalkyl, phenyl, phenylthio, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl or heterocyclylthio, hydroxyl, alkyloxy, trifluoromethoxy, alkylthio, trifluoromethylthio, cycloalkyloxy,

cycloalkylthio, cyano, carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl,
-NRaRb or -CONRaRb radical

for which Ra and Rb are independently hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl,
phenyl, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl, or

Ra and Rb form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are
attached, a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle which can optionally
contain an additional heteroatom chosen from O, S and N and,
when the additional heteroatom is N, the additional heteroatom
optionally is substituted with an alkyl, phenyl or mono- or bicyclic
aromatic heterocyclyl substituent and, when the additional
heteroatom is S, the additional heteroatom optionally is sulfinyl or
sulfonyl,

or a methylene radical substituted with fluoro, hydroxyl, alkyloxy, alkylthio,
cycloalkyloxy, cycloalkylthio, phenyl, mono- or bicyclic aromatic heterocyclyl,
carboxyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, cycloalkyloxycarbonyl, -NRaRb or -CONRaRb

for which Ra and Rb are defined as above, and are additionally chosen
from phenoxy, heterocyclyloxy, benzyloxy, and heterocyclylmethoxy,
and, optionally,

R₁ is difluoromethoxy, or a radical of structure -C_mF_{2m+1}, -SC_mF_{2m+1}, or -OC_mF_{2m+1}

wherein m is an integer from 1 to 6;

Hal is chlorine, bromine or iodine;

wherein any alkyl or acyl radical or portion, unless otherwise indicated,

comprises from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in a straight or branched chain, and any

cycloalkyl radical comprises from 3 to 6 carbon atoms;
with the proviso that the compound of formula (III) is not
3-fluoro-4-chloro-6,7-dimethoxy-quinoline.

21. **(New)** The compound as claimed in claim 20, wherein Hal is bromine or iodine.
22. **(New)** The compound as claimed in claim 20, wherein Hal is iodine.
23. **(New)** 4-Chloro-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
24. **(New)** 4-Bromo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
25. **(New)** 4-Iodo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
26. **(New)** 3-Fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
27. **(New)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is chlorine, comprising fluorinating the corresponding 4-chloro-quinoline.
28. **(New)** The process according to claim 27, wherein the compound prepared is 4-chloro-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline and the starting material is 4-chloro-6-methoxyquinoline.

29. **(New)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is bromine, comprising brominating the corresponding 3-fluoro-4-hydroxyquinoline.
30. **(New)** The process according to claim 29, wherein the compound prepared is 4-Bromo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.
31. **(New)** A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Hal is iodine, comprising:

contacting the corresponding 3-fluoro-quinoline with a suitable base, and

brominating the product resulting from the previous step.
32. **(New)** The process according to claim 31, wherein the compound prepared is 4-Iodo-3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline and the starting material is 3-fluoro-6-methoxyquinoline.